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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,680	06/05/2001	Laura R. Whitby	81513PCW	7981

7590 09/09/2004

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EXAMINER

TRAN, NHAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

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DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,680

Applicant(s)

WHITBY ET AL.

Examiner

Nhan T. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Morikawa et al (US 5,528,285).

Regarding claim 1, Morikawa discloses a docking station (150) for transmitting digital files via I/O port 152 (see Figs. 2-4; col. 7, lines 10-28 and col. 10, line 49 – col. 11, line 35), the docking station comprising:

a housing (Figs. 3 & 4) for forming an enclosure for the docking station assembly and the housing includes an insert-receiving portion (indentation 151a or I/O port 152) for receiving any of a plurality of removable and replaceable inserts (i.e., any of different cameras of same model shown in Fig. 2); and

a removable and replaceable insert (i.e., camera 100 mounted on the station 150 as shown in Fig. 2) having a docking mating portion (a mating I/O port at the bottom of the camera 100) which mates with the insert receiving portion, and having camera mating portion (the camera body itself) having a shape of a portion of a particular electronic device. See col. 6, lines 56-62.

Regarding claim 2, it is also disclosed that when the camera is mounted on the station 150, a plurality of pins of the corresponding I/O port located at the bottom of the camera represent a plurality of inserts (Figs. 2-4).

Regarding claim 3, Morikawa also shows the receiving portion as being an indentation 151a including the I/O port 152 that represent a notched-out portion for the camera to be mounted.

Regarding claim 4, the electronic device is a digital camera 100 as described in Fig. 6 and col. 8, line 46 – col. 9, line 27.

Regarding claim 5, it is also seen that the digital camera 100 is a stand-alone device when it is not mounted on the station 150 since it operates using its own battery as described in Fig. 6 and col. 10, lines 32-40. Therefore, the digital camera 100 is a wireless device.

Regarding claim 6, Morikawa discloses an I/O port 152 as an electrical connection disposed on the station 150 for connection to the camera 100 (Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 7, inherently disclosed is a floor of the insert (the bottom portion of the camera) having a notched-out portion (an I/O port at the bottom of the camera) through which the electrical connection passes (Figs. 2-4; col. 6, lines 56-62).

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Regarding claim 8, also disclosed by Morikawa is one or more stabilizing elements (the I/O port 152 itself and/or the indentation structure 151a) for providing stable support for connection of the electronic device to the insert (also see col. 6, lines 56-62).

Regarding claim 9, Morikawa further discloses an electrical cable attached to the housing (i.e., at I/O port 157, IL, IT) for transmitting digital signals (see Fig. 4; col. 7, lines 43 and col. 11, lines 5-35).

Regarding claim 10, Morikawa further discloses a power cable (164) attached to the housing for transmitting electrical power to the docking station (Fig. 4; col. 7, line 49).

Regarding claim 11, Morikawa discloses a docking station assembly for transmitting digital files (see claim 1), the docking station comprising:

a housing for forming an enclosure for the docking station assembly and the housing includes a notched-out portion (indentation 151a or I/O port 152) for receiving any of a plurality of removable and replaceable inserts (i.e., any of different cameras of same model shown in Fig. 2) that mates both with the housing and a particular electronic device (the I/O port).

Regarding claim 12, it is also disclosed that the removable and replaceable insert has a docking mating portion (an I/O port at the bottom of the camera) which mates with the notched-

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out portion and having a camera mating portion (the camera body itself) having a shape of a portion of a particular electronic device (Figs. 2-4).

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhan T. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 605-4246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew B Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NT.



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